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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/631,998	07/30/2003	Jinkui Hu		2310

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EXAMINER

GILMAN, ALEXANDER

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED: 01/12/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/631,998

Applicant(s)

HU ET AL.

Examiner

Alexander Gilman

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07/30/2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1-12, 14-16 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Davis et al in view of Clinton et al.

With regard to claims 1, 14, 15 and 16, Davis et al (US 5,797,770) disclose an electrical connector comprising:

an insulative housing (4) comprising a supporting portion, a mating portion (3) above the supporting portion,

an inner shell (7) enclosing the mating portion

an outer shell (6) enclosing both the insulative housing and the inner shell;

a plurality of terminals (2) extending through the mating portion and being enclosed by the inner shell.

Davis et al do not disclose a two grounding leg extending into the channel a grounding tab comprising an intermediate portion, a contacting portion extending from the intermediate portion, and a solder tail extending from the intermediate portion opposite to contacting portion and the contacting portion extending into the said channel and parallel electrically connecting to the grounding leg of the inner shell.

McClinton et al (US 6,200,161) disclose a two grounding legs (34) extending into the channel (32).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to ground the inner shell to the printed board with the grounding tabs, as taught by Clinton et al, to increase capacitive coupling with the terminals connection by dependable grounding the inner shell.

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With regard to claim 2, Davis et al when modified by McClinton et al disclose (McClinton et al) the electrical connector as described in claim 1, wherein the inner shell (7) comprises an upper wall, a lower wall and a pair of side walls connecting the upper wall and the lower wall.

With regard to claims 3 and 4, Davis et al when modified by McClinton et al disclose (McClinton et al) the grounding leg (34) extends rearwardly (Fig. 4) and from one of the lower wall.

With regard to claim 5, Davis et al when modified by McClinton et al disclose (McClinton et al) the grounding leg (34) comprising a projection protruded therefrom.

With regard to claim 6 Davis et al when modified by McClinton et al disclose (Davis et al) the mating portion comprises an upper wall, a lower wall and a pair of opposite side walls connecting the upper wall and the lower wall, and wherein the upper wall, the bottom wall and the side walls define a receiving space therebetween.

With regard to claim 7, Davis et al when modified by McClinton et al disclose (McClinton et al) the channel being defined in the lower wall (30) of the insulative housing and communicates with the receiving space.

With regard to claim 8, Davis et al when modified by McClinton et al disclose (McClinton et al) the insulative housing defines a pair of slots (r.n. 32 from bottom and a horizontal slot) to receive the intermediate portion of the grounding tab.

With regard to claim 9, Davis et al when modified by McClinton et al disclose (McClinton et al) the grounding tab comprises an angled portion between the intermediate portion and the solder tail.

With regard to claims 10-12, Davis et al when modified by McClinton et al disclose (Davis et al) a first terminal module (12) and a second terminal module (12) stackedly arranged with the first terminal module,

Davis et al when modified by McClinton et al do not disclose that the first and the second module are retained in the receiving space of the insulative housing and comprise a first and a second dielectric bodies insert-molded with the first and the second terminals and being assembled to the insulative housing.

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It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to manufacture the first and the second modules being insert-molded with the first and the second terminals and being assembled to the insulative housing, since it has been held that constructing a formerly integral structure in various elements involves only routine skill in the art. *Nerwin v. Erlichman*, 168 USPQ 177, 179 .


2. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Davis et al in view of McClinton et al as applied to claim 10 above, and further in view of Wu et al. Davis et al when modified by McClinton et al do not disclose a rear shell covering a rear face shell. Wu et al (US 6,165,015) a rear shell covering a rear face shell (31).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alexander Gilman whose telephone number is (703) 305-0847. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 10:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on (703) 308-2319. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4900.

01/05/2003


ALEXANDER GILMAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER